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might be pleased to sanction another First Class Magistrate's Court for the Kottayam division and locate it preferably at Parur or at Alwaye.

Dewan's reply.—The Dewan Peishkar of Kottayam will be asked to report on the suggestion of the Member.

87. *Improvement of the Parur reclamation bund and the abolition of the bund cess.*

Mr. D. Subramonia Iyer (Member, Parur Taluk) said that Government seemed to have decided not to incur any further expenditure on the Parur bund. The bund enclosed within it 7,328 paras of paddy lands, which brought an annual income to Government of 22,000 fanams in the shape of tax and 14,000 fanams as bund cess. A sum of 1½ lakhs of rupees had already been spent on it. If the bund were now abandoned, all the above sums would be lost to Government and several lands within it would also be washed away. The existence and maintenance of the bund, the Member said, were therefore necessary. At present, owing to the influx of brackish water due to the breaches in the bund and for lack of arrangements for the proper drainage and for the supply of fresh water, a good portion of the lands came to be left uncultivated. But the bund cess due to Government was being regularly recovered, even though the ryots did not receive any benefit from the bund. The Member said that it was hard therefore that they should be called upon to pay the cess. He prayed (1) that the order of Government abandoning the improvement of the bund be re-considered, and (2) if that was not possible and the bund could not be rendered useful, that the bund cess might at least be abolished.

Dewan's reply.—Government are not prepared to spend any more money on the bund. The decision of Government is contained in G. O. No. 2711/P. W., dated 19th May 1907, which Government see no reason to reconsider. The question of the bund cess will be enquired into.

QUILON DIVISION.

AMBALAPUZHA TALUK.

88. *Transfer of the headquarters of the Ambalapuzha taluk to Alleppey.*

Mr. G. H. Davey of Alleppey (Member, Nominated) said that Alleppey, though one of the largest towns in Travancore, was very disadvantageously placed on the extreme limits of the two taluks of Shertallay and Ambalapuzha. He observed that no other large town was placed at such a disadvantage, the towns as a rule being the headquarters of the taluks. Besides the difficulty of a large

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population being compelled to go either to Ambalapuzha or Shertallay for all purposes connected with revenue, civil and criminal matters, there was the disadvantage to Government of having to maintain two treasuries. The transfer of the headquarters of the Ambalapuzha taluk to Alleppey would therefore be in the interests of Government and would at the same time confer a great boon on the people. Should the proposal not commend itself to Government, the Member prayed that Alleppey might at least be formed into a separate taluk, independent of Shertallay and Ambalapuzha.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

Dewan.—Gentlemen, before we part this evening, I would, with your permission, say a few words expressing His Highness the Maharaja's reprobation of the recent attempt on the life of Sir Andrew Fraser. Though we, in Travancore, do not ordinarily take much interest in the affairs of British Provinces, yet an occasion like this is one in which people all over India—in British or Native States—may well speak with one voice. I trust that the Members of this Assembly, who are the representatives of all classes of His Highness' people, are at one with His Highness' Government in the sentiments I have expressed.

Mr. K. C. Mamman Mappilla (Member, Kottayam Taluk) spoke as follows:—

"Sir, We are deeply grieved to hear what has just fallen from your lips. We cannot find words adequate enough to express our abhorrence at the dastardly attempt. Permit me to assure you, on my own behalf and on behalf of all the Members of this Assembly and indeed of all the people of Travancore, that we associate ourselves with the sentiments you have expressed."

The Assembly adjourned at 4-30 P. M.

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